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Connecting visions and voices: Involving service users in realizing 'good mental health care'

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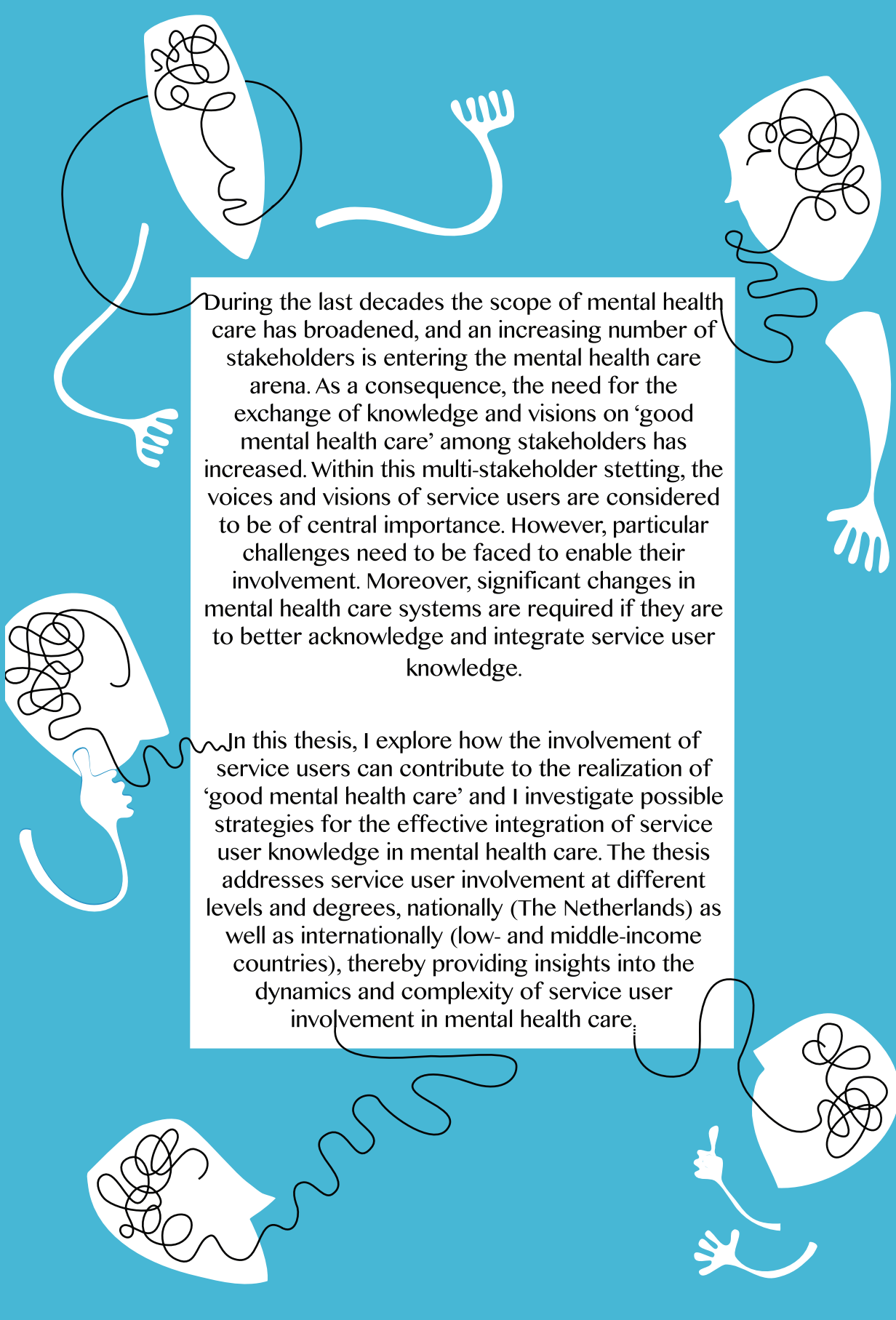
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During the last decades the scope of mental health care has broadened, and an increasing number of stakeholders is entering the mental health care arena. As a consequence, the need for the exchange of knowledge and visions on 'good mental health care' among stakeholders has increased. Within this multi-stakeholder setting, the voices and visions of service users are considered to be of central importance. However, particular challenges need to be faced to enable their involvement. Moreover, significant changes in mental health care systems are required if they are to better acknowledge and integrate service user knowledge.

In this thesis, I explore how the involvement of service users can contribute to the realization of 'good mental health care' and I investigate possible strategies for the effective integration of service user knowledge in mental health care. The thesis addresses service user involvement at different levels and degrees, nationally (The Netherlands) as well as internationally (low- and middle-income countries), thereby providing insights into the dynamics and complexity of service user involvement in mental health care.

Connecting visions and voices

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